

INFORMATION REPORT

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HOUSING CONDITIONS

1. [] a three-room apartment, with kitchen and lavatory, in a wooden two-story house. The building had eight separate apartments. Krasnogorsk also had about twenty stone apartment buildings. One family was assigned usually to one room and living quarters were very crowded. I believe the city dwellings were erected during the 1930 period to house Soviet employees of the factory at which I worked. Bus and train connections were used for travel to Moscow.

WATER SUPPLY

2. The city had a central water supply, which obtained water from the ground. There was a pumping station and a water tower in the center of the city. I believe that Proschatti also had a small pumping station attached to the central water supply. All of the houses were included in the waterworks network. The water was hard and chlorinated. In the surrounding areas several local villages obtained their water from shallow wells. To my knowledge there was no regulation requiring boiling of water prior to drinking. The city always had a sufficient quantity of water for its needs, even during the summer.

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FOOD SUPPLY

3. In 1946 and 1947 the food situation was very poor. Rations were inadequate, and available food was too expensive. Between 1948 and 1952 the situation became much better, and although there was never a surplus the supply was adequate. The average diet consisted of a porridge, black bread, potatoes, white cabbage or sauerkraut and considerable vodka. Fat was supplied by margarine, sunflower oil, or pig fat. Bread was usually made from rye flour, although varying amounts of white flour were used in making bread for the market. Vegetables sold on the market, in addition to the staple cabbage, were white beans, cucumbers, and some canned vegetables.
4. Milk, which was not pasteurized, was sold in state stores or in the market place. Bottled milk was not available except in Moscow. Purchasers usually brought their own container. Owners of cows also sold milk at the house door. In the market place there was a stand where milk was checked, but I don't know what controls were imposed. I believe the control stand checked only the price of the milk.
5. A meat checker also worked at the market place and stamped all meat to be sold. I do not know what quality was required before issuance of this stamp. Meat sold included beef, pork and lamb and was very expensive. I believe that food outlets were also controlled, but do not know what this control was. I recall only one large restaurant next to the factory at which various foods were on sale at different prices. Refrigeration of foods was carried out in the factory mess hall. I know that laws regulating food sanitation existed, but do not know the nature of these laws, nor the manner in which they were enforced.

DISEASES

6. Tuberculosis was a serious problem in Krasnogorsk. There was a sanatorium for tuberculosis sufferers on the edge of town, in a wooden house. I know of no other diseases which occurred in epidemic proportions. I have no information on the prevalence of venereal diseases, dysentery, typhoid fever or typhus. There were occasional cases of influenza and pneumonia. I know of no animal diseases in the area.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

7. The factory had a dispensary and pharmacy, called medpunkt, which comprised three or four rooms. This was staffed by three nurses, a medical assistant, at least one doctor, and a woman pharmacist. This dispensary handled cases of illnesses occurring on the job, and cases of workers temporarily unable to resume work.
8. A polyclinic, an L-shaped, two-story stone building, was located about 100 meters from the factory. The main wing measured 20 meters by 50 meters; the side wing was 20 meters by 20 meters. I do not know who staffed this polyclinic, i.e., whether the physicians were specialists, or how many were on duty. The polyclinic had three dentists, who were always very busy.

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9. A hospital, a three-story stone building, 100 meters by 30 meters, was located about one kilometer from the factory. I believe there were several small buildings nearby, attached to the hospital. A small two-story maternity hospital with about fifty beds was located near the hospital. I know no details about the hospital, nor the quality of care offered. An old resident of the city told me that considerable improvement, as compared to tsarist times, has taken place. No medical care was available under the tsars, but now the city has all forms of medical assistance. Cases of sickness which required more skill than was available in Krasnogorsk were regularly referred to Moscow. Infectious diseases were cared for in a special section of the hospital. There were no separated buildings for such cases. I think that children were immunized almost every year against tuberculosis, scarlet fever, and probably smallpox.
10. The city had a public health administrative office, but I do not know its duties. This office required that articles taken back to Germany by the departing Germans be disinfected and so stamped by it. It may have conducted control tests of public water. The only laboratory in the city was at the hospital where urinalyses were performed.
11. I know of no other medical installations in the city of Krasnogorsk. In a nearby park there was a sanatorium for high-ranking military officers. I heard that DIMITROV, a prominent Rumanian Communist, was admitted to this sanatorium. I did not hear of sanitary-epidemiological stations, nor of vrachebnyy uchastok. There were no feldsher-midwife stations in the city.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

12. The physician of the factory dispensary was expected to guard the health of the employees, and correct conditions hazardous to health. There was also a safety-engineering specialist assigned to insure maintenance of safety practices. In the event of an accident, a commission of three men including the plant physician, the safety engineer, and one other employee, were expected to investigate the accident and establish responsibility. I believe this investigation was carried out in order to establish the right of the injured worker to health insurance benefits and not primarily to prevent future accidents.
13. The plant gave rations of milk to employees who worked on apparatus using mercury vapor. This is the only instance I can recall showing that the plant officials had any regard for workers in dangerous work.
14. I have no knowledge that bacteria warfare and chemical warfare were given any thought by officials in Krasnogorsk. I heard of no blood donor service.

ANIMALS

15. The city had many flies and bedbugs, but few lice or mosquitoes. These insects were fought with a Soviet-issued DDT which was ineffective. Petroleum was also available for soaking the rooms to drive away the insects, and it proved quite good. I saw no poisonous snakes and no wild life. Rats and mice were present but not in excessive numbers. The city had many homeless dogs and a campaign was instituted to kill these creatures.

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PLANTS

16. I heard of no poisonous plants or allergenic plants. Although the area had many mushrooms, I heard of no cases of poisoning as a result of eating mushrooms.

WASTE DISPOSAL

17. Krasnogorsk had a sewage disposal system and water closets in all of the dwellings. I do not know how the sewage was discharged. I never saw any settling basins, and I do not recall that cesspools were used. I do not know where the sewage was eventually emptied. All houses were included in the system except those in the small surrounding villages, which used outdoor latrines.
18. Garbage was probably removed by city administrative officials but I have no information on this subject. I do not know how it was collected or where it was taken.

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